

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A plastic closure comprising: a lower part, a cap and a snap hinge connecting the lower part and the cap to one another as one piece, the lower part and the cap manufacturable in a closed state and connected to one another by at least one separation seam, and all elements of the snap hinge are positioned in a lateral wall region of the closure which run parallel to a closing and opening movement direction of an injection mold, wherein no element of the snap hinge extends outward beyond an outer surface plane of the lateral wall region.

2. (Previously Presented) A plastic closure according to claim 1, wherein the lateral walls of the lower part and the cap are arranged on top of one another in a flush manner at least in a region of the snap hinge.

3. (Previously Presented) A plastic closure according to claim 1, wherein the lateral walls of the lower part and the cap lie on top of one another in a completely flush manner.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A plastic closure according to~~
claim 3, A plastic closure comprising: a lower part, a cap and a snap hinge
connecting the lower part and the cap to one another as one piece, the lower part and
the cap manufacturable in a closed state and connected to one another by at least one
separation seam, the lateral walls of the lower part and the cap lie on top of one
another in a completely flush manner, and all elements of the snap hinge are
positioned in a lateral wall region of the closure which run parallel to a closing and
opening movement direction of an injection mold, wherein no element of the snap
hinge extends outward beyond an outer surface plane of the lateral wall region and
wherein the lateral walls of the lower part and the cap on an outer surface are free of
one of inward formations and outward formations, and inner surfaces of the lower
part and the cap comprise at least one of inward formations and outward formations
not exceeding a wall thickness of the lateral walls.

5. (Previously Presented) ~~A plastic closure according to~~
claim 3, wherein the lateral walls of the lower part and the cap on the inner surface
are free of one of inward formations and outward formations, and the outer surfaces
have at least one of inward formations and outward formations not exceeding a wall
thickness of the lateral walls.

6. (Previously Presented) A plastic closure according to claim 1, wherein the lower part and the cap are connected to one another by two separation seams which delimit a guarantee strip, and the two separation seams proceeding from a lateral limitation of the snap hinge are positioned around the closure up to at least approximately an other lateral limitation of the snap hinge.

7. (Previously Presented) A plastic closure according to claim 6, wherein the two separation seams run parallel to one another.

8. (Previously Presented) A plastic closure according to claim 6, wherein the two separation seams run in two planes perpendicular to a central middle axis of the closure.

9. (Previously Presented) A plastic closure according to claim 6, wherein the two separation seams run in planes inclined to a central middle axis of the closure.

10. (Previously Presented) A plastic closure according to claim 6, wherein the two separation seams run in planes which are differently inclined with respect to a central middle axis of the closure.

11. (Previously Presented) A plastic closure according to claim 1, wherein the snap hinge is formed of two film hinges which from one lateral limitation to an other limitation of the snap hinge follow a course that one of centrally approach one another and diverge from one another.

12. (Previously Presented) A plastic closure according to claim 11, wherein the two film hinges at a middle portion contact one another at least approximately and follow one of a curved course and a sharp bend, wherein the film hinges laterally enclose two lateral intermediate elements transmitting tensile forces.

13. (Currently Amended) A plastic closure according to claim 12, wherein the lateral limitations of the lateral intermediate elements are separated from the lateral walls by a gap.

14. (Previously Presented) A plastic closure according to claim 11, wherein the lateral limitations of intermediate elements are connected to the adjacent lateral walls by separation seams that tear on opening for a first time.

15. (Currently Amended) A plastic closure according to claim 14, wherein the plastic closure is formed by an injection mold for manufacturing the plastic closure has having two plates, one of the plates has cores and an other of the plates has cavities, and at least one of the plates on surfaces parallel to an extension direction of the plates is free of one of recesses and protuberances.

16. (Currently Amended) An injection mold for forming the plastic closure according to claim 15, wherein mandrels on the one plate in the surfaces parallel to the extension direction comprise at least one of protuberances and recesses, and the other plate with the cavities on surfaces parallel to the extension direction is free of one of recesses and protuberances.

17. (Currently Amended) An injection mold for forming the plastic closure according to claim 15, wherein the cavities in the surfaces parallel to the extension direction are one of recesses and protuberances, and the surfaces of mandrels parallel to the extension direction are free of one of protuberances and recesses.

18. (Currently Amended) A ~~plastic closure according to~~
~~claim 17, wherein a method for manufacturing the plastic closure using the mold~~
~~according to claim 17, comprising~~ comprises first extending the plates with one of
the mandrels and the cavities with surfaces parallel to the extension direction which
are free of one of the recesses and the protuberances, and then ejecting the plastic
closures which are free at one side from the other plate.

19. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 18,
wherein first the other plate with the cavities is retracted and then cores are pulled
from the plastic closures.

20. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 18,
wherein first cores are pulled from the plastic closures and then the plastic closures
are ejected.

21. (Currently Amended) A ~~plastic closure according to~~
~~claim 15, wherein a method for manufacturing the plastic closure according to claim~~
~~15, comprising~~ comprises first extending the plates with one of mandrels and the
cavities with surfaces parallel to the extension direction which are free of one of the
recesses and the protuberances, and then ejecting the plastic closures which are free
at one side from the other plate.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 21, wherein first the other plate with the cavities is retracted and then cores are pulled from the plastic closures.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 21, wherein first cores are pulled from the plastic closures and then the plastic closures are ejected.

24. (Currently Amended) A plastic closure according to claim 1, A plastic closure comprising: a lower part, a cap and a snap hinge connecting the lower part and the cap to one another as one piece, the lower part and the cap manufacturable in a closed state and connected to one another by at least one separation seam, and all elements of the snap hinge are positioned in a lateral wall region of the closure which run parallel to a closing and opening movement direction of an injection mold, wherein the plastic closure is formed by an injection mold for manufacturing the plastic closure has two plates, one of the plates has cores and an other of the plates has cavities, and at least one of the plates on surfaces parallel to an extension direction of the plates is free of one of recesses and protuberances.

25. (Previously Presented) An injection mold according to claim 24, wherein mandrels on the one plate in the surfaces parallel to the extension direction comprise at least one of protuberances and recesses, and the other plate

with the cavities on surfaces parallel to the extension direction is free of one or recesses and protuberances.

26. (Canceled)

27. (New) A plastic closure comprising:

a lower part, a cap, a snap hinge connecting the lower part and the cap to one another as one piece, and a separation seam circumferentially extending from one side of the snap hinge to an other side of the snap hinge, the lower part and the cap connected to one another in a closed state of the plastic closure by the separation seam;

the lower part, the cap, the snap hinge, and the separation seam manufacturable in the closed state of the plastic closure, and the lower part and the cap secured in the closed state by the separation seam; and

all elements of the snap hinge are positioned in a lateral wall region of the closure which run parallel to a closing and opening movement direction of an injection mold, wherein no element of the snap hinge extends outward beyond an outer surface plane of the lateral wall region.